



Progress of Jurisdictions and the Department of State Police in Establishing Interrogation Rooms Capable of Creating Audiovisual Recordings of Custodial Interrogations 2018 Annual Update

Criminal Procedure Article, § 2-404, Senate Bill 76/Chapter 359 (2008), House
Bill 6/Chapter 360 (2008)

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MSAR #7174
January 8, 2019

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Background

Chapters 359 and 360 of 2008, *Criminal Procedure - Custodial Interrogation - Recordation*, established a State policy in which a law enforcement unit using one or more interrogation rooms with the capability to create audio and/or visual recordings of custodial interrogations shall make reasonable efforts to record interrogations of suspects in connection with cases of murder, rape, or sexual offenses in the first or second degree.¹

Chapters 359 and 360 of 2008 also requires the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (Office) to report to the House Judiciary Committee and the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article on the progress of jurisdictions and the Department of State Police in establishing interrogation rooms capable of creating audio and/or visual recordings of custodial interrogations.

The Office makes funding available to local law enforcement agencies through the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant, Law Enforcement Technology grant program for "Custodial Interrogation Equipment." Additional funds have been made available through the Byrne Justice Recovery Act since the law was enacted in 2008.

Methodology

Using an online survey tool, the Office created and administered an interrogation room survey which was distributed to all law enforcement agencies in the State. Through this survey, the following information was collected:

1. Agency name
2. Number of interrogation rooms
3. The hardwired technological capabilities of each room (none, audio, visual, or both audio and visual)
4. The portable technological equipment used in each room (none, audio, visual, or both audio and visual)
5. Did the agency have future plans for adding interrogation rooms
6. Did the agency have future plans for purchasing new audio/visual equipment to each room
7. The funding source for each room

¹ Maryland General Assembly. (2008). [*Chapter 359 of 2008 \(Senate Bill 76\), Criminal Procedure - Custodial Interrogation - Recordation*](#). Maryland General Assembly. (2008). [*Chapter 360 of 2008 \(House Bill 6\), Criminal Procedure - Custodial Interrogation - Recordation*](#).

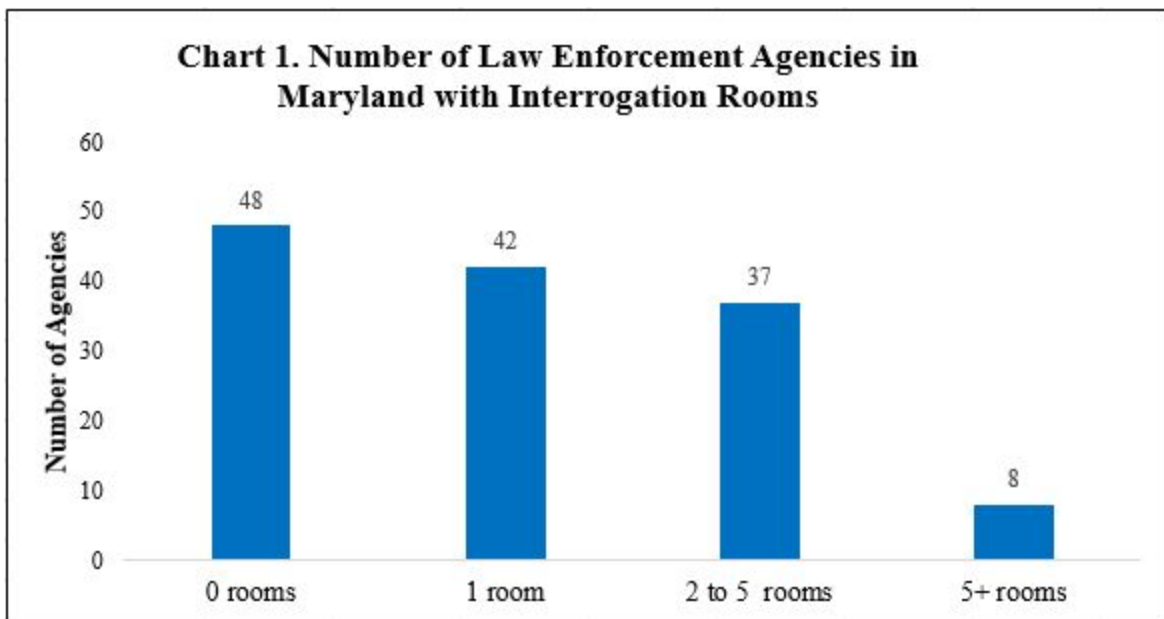
Results

A total of 135 law enforcement agencies received the electronic interrogation room survey. From this total, 91 completed the electronic survey and 44 did not. Of the 44 law enforcement agencies that did not complete the survey, 22 noted zero (0) interrogation rooms last year with no future plans to add any interrogation rooms.

Number of Interrogation Rooms

There are currently 289 interrogation rooms in the State. Forty-eight law enforcement agencies (35.6%) reported that they do not have an interrogation room; whereas, 87 agencies (64.4%) reported at least one interrogation room.

The results of the electronic interrogation room survey found the Prince George's County Police Department to have the highest number of interrogation rooms in the State, with a total of 33 rooms. Of the 87 agencies that have at least one interrogation room, six agencies (Anne Arundel County Police Department, Baltimore Police Department, Baltimore County Police Department, Maryland State Police, Montgomery County Police Department, and Prince George's County Police Department) accounted for nearly half of all interrogation rooms in the State (140 rooms). As illustrated below, **Chart 1** provides a breakdown of the number of interrogation rooms by agency.



Audio/Visual Recording Capabilities

A total of 226 (78.2%) of the interrogation rooms statewide are equipped with some type of hardwired audio or visual recording capabilities. This represents a 1.3% increase over the 223 interrogation rooms with some type of audio or visual recording capability reported in 2017. Of the rooms equipped with these technologies, the vast majority (72.0%) have both audio and visual recording capabilities. As illustrated below, **Chart 2** provides the various types of hardwired recording capabilities utilized within interrogation rooms in Maryland. Of the 87 agencies with at least one interrogation room, 28% (n = 24) use some type of portable audio or visual recording device in their rooms.

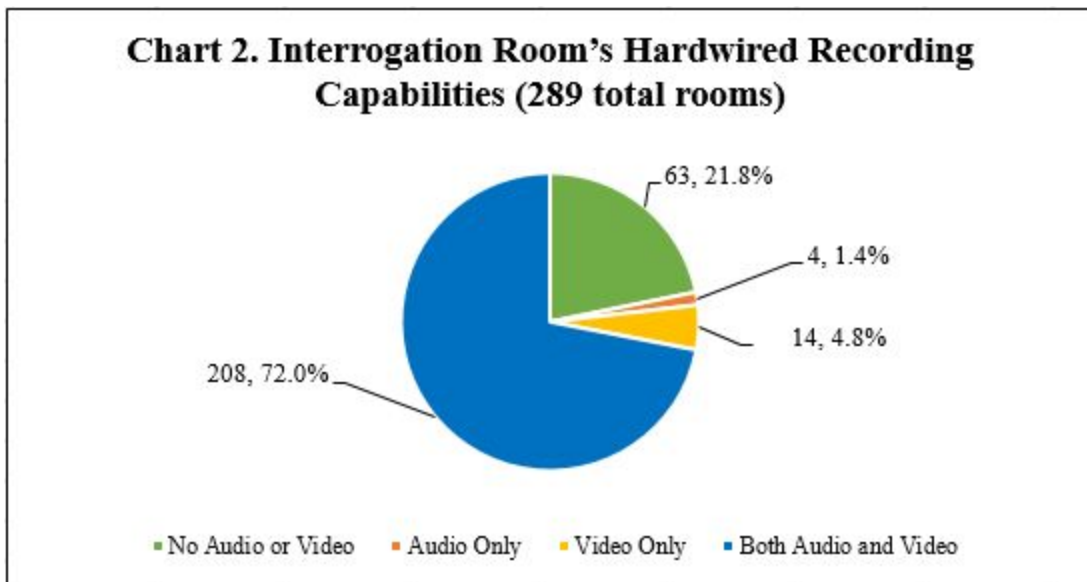
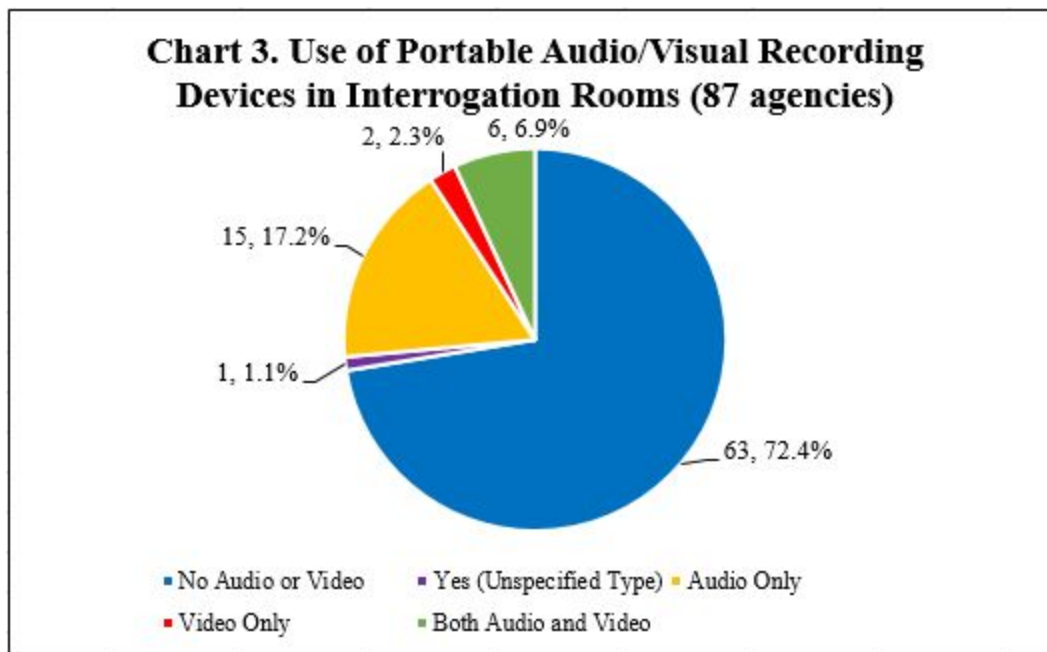


Chart 3 provides a breakdown of the various types of portable equipment, if available.



Future Plans for Interrogation Rooms or Audio/Visual Recording Enhancements

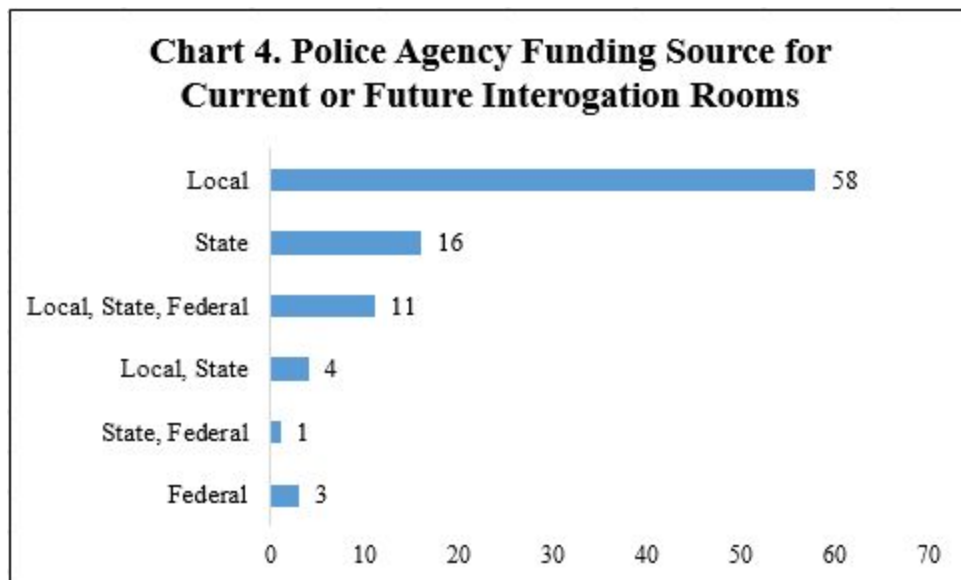
Most of the law enforcement agencies indicated no future plans for the creation or addition of interrogation rooms within their agency (90.3%). Furthermore, nearly three-fourths of agencies reported no future plans of purchasing new audio or visual recording equipment. The timelines for the future plans of adding interrogation rooms or audio/visual recording equipment are broken down in **Tables 1 and 2**.

Table 1. Police Agency's Future Plans and Timelines for the Creation of New or Additional Interrogation Rooms		
Future Plans	Number of Agencies	Percent
No Future Plans	119	88.1%
0 - 12 Months	7	5.2%
13 - 24 Months	7	5.2%
Over 24 Months	2	1.5%
Total	135	100.0%

Table 2. Police Agency's Future Plans and Timelines for the Purchasing of New Audio or Visual Recording Equipment		
Future Plans	Number of Agencies	Percent
No Future Plans	63	72.4%
0 - 12 Months	13	14.9%
13 - 24 Months	7	8.0%
Over 24 Months	3	3.4%
Timeline not Specified	1	1.1%
Total	87	100.0%

Funding Sources

A total of 93 law enforcement agencies listed a current or future funding source(s) for their interrogation rooms. **Table 6** provides a breakdown of the various funding sources.



Discussion

The major findings of the 2018 electronic interrogation room survey to law enforcement agencies include the following:

- Nearly two-thirds of Maryland law enforcement agencies have at least one interrogation room to conduct custodial interrogations;
- Over three-fourths of interrogation rooms are equipped with some type of hardwired audio or visual recording capabilities, many times both recording options are available;
- Three-fourths of all audio visual recording equipment in law enforcement interrogation rooms are stationary and cannot be transported;
- Most Maryland law enforcement agencies have not indicated any future plans to add new or additional interrogations rooms or new forms of audio/visual recording equipment.

The Office will continue to provide support through the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant, Law Enforcement Technology grant for law enforcement equipment and provide annual updates to the progress of each law enforcement agency in establishing interrogation rooms capable of creating audio/visual recordings of custodial interrogations.

Appendix: 2018 Interrogation Room Survey Results

Agency	Survey Participation	Number of Rooms	No Audio/Video	Audio Only	Video Only	Audio and Video	Portable AV	Future Plans for Rooms	Future Plans for Equipment	Funding Source
Aberdeen Police Department	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	Audio	No	No	Local
Allegany County Sheriffs Office	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Annapolis Police Department	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	Both	No	No	Unknown
Anne Arundel County Police Department	Yes	14	0	0	0	14	No	No	12 months	Local
Anne Arundel County Sheriffs Office	Previous Year	3	0	0	3	0	No	No	No	Local
Baltimore City Community College Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Baltimore City School Police Force	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Baltimore City Sheriffs Office	Previous Year	3	0	3	0	0	Audio	No	No	Local, State, Federal
Baltimore County Police Department	Yes	20	10	0	0	10	No	No	No	Local
Baltimore County Sheriffs Office	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Baltimore Police Department	Yes	30	20	0	0	10	Audio	No	No	Local, State, Federal
Bel Air Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	n/a	24 months	Local
Berlin Police Department	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
Berwyn Heights Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	1	0	Both	12 months	12 months	Local
Bladensburg Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	Audio	12 months	12 months	Local
Boonsboro Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Bowie State University Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Brentwood Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Brunswick Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	18-24 months	n/a	Local
Calvert County Sheriffs Office	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
Cambridge Police Department	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	Both	No	No	Local
Capitol Heights Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	Federal
Caroline County Sheriffs Office	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Carroll County Sheriffs Office	Yes	4	0	0	0	4	No	No	No	Local
Cecil County Sheriffs Office	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	2 months	2 months	Local
Centreville Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	No	Local
Charles County Sheriffs Office	Yes	4	0	0	0	4	No	No	No	Local
Chestertown Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	1	0	No	No	12 months	Local
Cheverly Police Department	Yes	2	1	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Chevy Chase Village Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
City of Bowie Police Department	Yes	3	0	0	0	3	No	No	No	Local
Colmar Manor Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Coppin State University Police	Yes	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	Video	No	No	State
Cottage City Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Crisfield Police Department	Yes	1	0	1	0	0	Audio	No	No	Unknown
Crofton Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Cumberland Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Delmar Police Department	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local, State, Federal
Denton Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Department of General Services	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
District Heights Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Dorchester County Sheriffs Office	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Easton Police Department	Yes	3	0	0	0	3	No	No	No	Local
Edmonston Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Elkton Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Fairmount Heights Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Federsburg Police Department	Yes	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	No	No	No	State
Forest Heights Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Frederick County Sheriffs Office	Previous Year	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	State
Frederick Police Department	Yes	3	1	0	0	2	Audio	36-48 months	No	Local
Frostburg Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Frostburg State University Police	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	State
Fruitland Police Department	Yes	3	0	0	0	3	Both	No	No	Local
Gaithersburg Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	Both	24 months	24 months	Local
Garrett County Sheriffs Office	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Gibson Island Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Glenarden Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Greenbelt Police Department	Previous Year	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	60 months	Local, State, Federal
Greensboro Police Department	Yes	1	n/a	n/a	1	n/a	Audio	No	6 months	Federal
Hagerstown Community College Police	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Hagerstown Police Department	Yes	4	0	0	0	4	No	No	No	Local
Hampstead Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	No	6 months	n/a	Local
Hancock Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	Local
Harford County Sheriffs Office	Yes	8	0	0	0	8	Audio	No	No	Local, State, Federal
Havre de Grace Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Howard County Police Department	Yes	8	0	0	0	8	Audio	No	12-14 months	Local
Howard County Sheriffs Office	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Hurlock Police Department	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local, State, Federal
Hyattsville Police Department	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	18 months	18 months	Local

Kent County Sheriff's Office	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
La Plata Police Department	Yes	1	1	0	0	0	Yes	No	12 months	Local
Landover Hills Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Laurel Police Department	Yes	3	0	0	0	3	No	No	No	Local
Lonaconing Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Luke Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Manchester Police Department	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Unknown
Maryland Capitol Police	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	State
Maryland Comptroller Field Enforcement Division	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Maryland State Police	Yes	17	4	0	3	10	No	12-24 months	12-24 months	State
Maryland Transit Administration Police	Previous Year	4	0	0	0	4	No	No	No	State, Federal
Maryland Transportation Authority Police	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	6-12 months	No	State
Maryland-National Capital Park Police Montgomery County	Previous Year	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
Maryland-National Capital Park Police Prince George's County	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	12-18 months	No	Local
Montgomery County Police Department	Yes	26	1	0	0	25	No	No	Unknown	Federal
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Morgan State University Police	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	36 months	n/a	State
Morningside Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Mount Airy Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Mount Rainier Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
New Carrollton Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
North East Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Oakland Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Ocean City Police Department	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
Ocean Pines Police Department	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Oxford Police Department	Previous Year	1	0	0	1	0	No	No	No	Local
Perryville Police Department	Yes	3	0	0	0	3	No	No	No	Local
Pocomoke City Police Department	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	Audio	No	No	Local, State
Prince George's County Community College Police	Previous Year	2	0	0	2	0	Video	No	No	Local
Prince George's County Police Department	Yes	33	16	0	0	17	Audio	6 months	6 months	Local
Prince George's County Sheriff's Office	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Princess Anne Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local, State
Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Office	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local, State, Federal
Ridgely Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Rising Sun Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	Local
Riverdale Park Police Department	Yes	1	1	0	0	0	No	No	36 months	Local, State, Federal
Rock Hall Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	No	No	n/a	n/a
Rockville Police Department	Previous Year	1	1	0	0	0	Audio	No	3-6 months	Local
Salisbury Police Department	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local, State, Federal
Salisbury University Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	State
Seat Pleasant Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	Local, State
Smithsburg Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
Snow Hill Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Somerset County Sheriff's Office	Yes	2	2	0	0	0	No	No	24-36 months	Local, State, Federal
Spring Grove Hospital Center Police	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	Audio	24 months	24 months	Local
St. Michaels Police Department	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	State
Sykesville Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	1	0	No	No	No	Local
Takoma Park Police Department	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	6 months	Local
Talbot County Sheriff's Office	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
Taneytown Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Thurmont Police Department	Yes	2	2	0	0	0	No	No	12 months	Local, State, Federal
Towson University Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	State
Trappe Police Department	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
University of Baltimore Police Department	Previous Year	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
University of Maryland Baltimore Police	Yes	1	0	0	1	0	Audio	No	12 months	State
University of Maryland Baltimore County Police Department	Previous Year	1	1	0	0	0	No	No	24 months	State
University of Maryland Eastern Shore Police Department	Yes	1	1	0	0	0	Both	12 months	12 months	State
University of Maryland Police	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	State
University Park Police Department	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
Upper Marlboro Police Department	Previous Year	1	1	0	0	0	No	No	No	n/a
Washington County Sheriff's Office	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local, State
Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Police	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	24 months	n/a	Local
Westminster Police Department	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	State
Wicomico County Sheriff's Office	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	Audio	No	No	Local
Worcester County Sheriff's Office	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local